

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 AID-05 SAM-01 IO-10 /079 W

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R 190500Z MAY 75

FM AMCONSUL ZANZIBAR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1064

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

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CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR TZ MZ

SUBJ: FRELIMO PRESIDENT VISITS ZANZIBAR

1. ON SHORT NOTICE SATURDAY, MAY 17, MFA INVITED CONSULAR CORPS TO ATTEND AIRPORT CEREMONY FOR VISITING FRELIMO PRESIDENT SAMORA MACHEL. PROGRAM AT AIRPORT WAS BRIEF, WITH MACHEL REVIEWING HONOR GUARD AND GREETING SELECTED TPDF SOLDIERS AND VIPS. NO STATEMENT MADE OR GIVEN OUT.

2. ON EVEN SHORTER NOTICE, AT AIRPORT, CONSULAR CORPS WAS INVITED TO ATTEND RALLY WHICH MACHEL ADDRESSED ONE HOUR LATER. FRELIMO PRESIDENT, AFTER WARM-UP BY AFRO-SHIRAZI PARTY (ASP) FUNCTIONARIES AND MACHEL'S OFFICIAL HOST, ASP SEC GEN
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KOMBO, ADDRESSED CROWD OF 2000. MACHEL'S EXTEMPORANEOUS REMARKS

WON THE CROWD, AND SOME TWO HOURS LATER PARTY DEPARTED FOR STATE GUEST HOUSE. CONSULAR CORPS WAS NOT INVITED TO ATTEND EVENING FESTIVITIES FOR THE FRELIMO PRESIDENT.

3. MACHEL DELIVERED WHAT WOULD APPEAR TO BE STANDARD-BILL-OF-FARE SPEECH AT AFTERNOON RALLY. BESIDES THE "I'M OKAY, YOU'RE OKAY" NICETIES, MACHEL NOTED THAT ZANZIBAR WAS THE "GARDEN OF IDEOLOGY" WHOSE OWN REVOLUTION HAD INSPIRED FRELIMO. MACHEL STRESSED THAT FOR ANY REVOLUTION TO BE SUCCESSFUL TWO POINTS WERE ESSENTIAL; UNANIMITY AMONG THE PEOPLE AND THE CORRECT POLITICAL POLICY. HE SAID THAT BECAUSE FRELIMO HAD THESE TWO QUALITIES IT (FRELIMO) WAS ABLE, WITH ONLY 250 SOLDIERS AT THE BEGINNING, TO EVENTUALLY "DEFEAT A PROFESSIONAL ARMY OF 40,000". MACHEL TOLD THE CROWD THAT FRELIMO WANTED EQUALITY FOR ALL, THAT FRELIMO'S FIGHT HAD NOT BEEN AGAINST THE PORTUGUESE PEOPLE; RATHER IT HAD BEEN AGAINST THE COLONIALISTS OF WHAT HE DESCRIBED AS THE FORMER "PORTUGUESE EAST AFRICA" (THIS TERM SPOKEN IN ENGLISH). RALLY CLOSED WITH SEVERAL MINUTES OF "VIVA..."

4. COMMENT: MACHEL, SPEAKING IN PORTUGUESE AND SWAHILI, HANDLED THE RALLY AND THE CROWD WELL, BUT MAINLY WHEN JOKING WITH OR SPEAKING ASIDE TO THE CROWD. BOTH HE AND HIS INTERPRETER HAD CONSIDERABLE DIFFICULTY DELIVERING HIS (MACHEL'S) MESSAGE FROM PORTUGUESE TO SWAHILI. ANOTHER INTERPRETER WAS EVENTUALLY CALLED TO THE PODIUM, AND SEVERAL MORE ON-STAGE DISCUSSIONS WERE HELD. THESE BROUGHT COLD SILENCE FROM ATTENDING ASP VIPS, WHO USUALLY MORE EBULLIENT TOWARDS VISITORS OF MACHEL'S STATURE.

5. BESIDES MACHEL'S CONVOLUTED DELIVERY, DOUBTLESS CONTRIBUTING AS WELL TO LESSENED DEGREE OF ENTHUSIASM ON PART OF ZANZIBARIS WAS FACT THAT FIRST VICE PRESIDENT (AND ASP HEAD) JUMBE CONSPICUOUSLY ABSENT. MFA OFFICIAL TOLD REPORTING OFFICER ONLY THAT JUMBE HAD "SOME OTHER COMMITMENTS ON THE MAINLAND".
CUTTER

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